# City of Rockville Department of Recreation and Parks

# MIGHTY MITES YOUTH BASKETBALL GRADES K-1 LEAGUE RULES 2012-2013

This league emphasizes learning, developing basic skills and having fun! Mighty Mites Basketball will combine girls and boys in grades K-1 into one co-rec league. The season will consist of three Saturday practices and one practice per week beginning in January. Saturday practices will be held on December 1, 8, and 15, 2012 at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. Games will be held on Saturday's from January 5 - February 16, 2013 at College Gardens Elementary School. Each team is guaranteed 6 games. The dates above include 1 make-up date. Games will be played on half courts with modified baskets, 8 feet 6 inches. Volunteer coaches will run team practices and serve as coach during games. There will be one official per game. Please do not keep score or standings for your team but encourage each player to have fun.

## **LEAGUE RULES:**

- 1. Co-Rec league for girls and boys in grades K-1.
- 2. Kindergarten and first grade boys and girls will play on half courts with one official. If there are only 8 players present at a game, play 4 on 4. Otherwise, all games will be played 5 v 5.
- 3. Games will consist of 36 minutes 4 nine (9) minute quarters. Time stops on foul shots and time outs. The game official will keep track of time. Teams may have two (2) 30 seconds timeouts per half.
- 4. There will be two (2) minutes in between each quarter and four (4) minute half time.
- 5. Each player must play 2 quarters from start to finish. It is recommended that each player play 1 quarter in the first half and 1 quarter in the second half. There should not be more than 12 players on a team. If you have less than 10 players on a team, please rotate the playing time each week so that everyone gets an equal opportunity. If a team has 12 players, please rotate players as equally as possible. For example: with 12 players at a game, 2 players will play a few minutes less than half the game. The next week, 2 different players should play less than half the game, and so on. No child should play every quarter every game. The goal is to have equal playing time for all players.
- 6. Use a foul line approximately 2 feet in front of the regulation foul line.
- 7. There are no back court violations.

- 8. Once the offensive team gets the ball over the mid-court line, the offense must make 3 passes prior to shooting the ball. After 3 passes, the offensive team may attempt to score. If the ball hits the basketball, the 3 pass rule does **not** start over.
- 9. No pressing or double-teaming. Man-to-man defense is mandatory once the ball crosses into the offensive front court. A player lineup is suggested at the beginning of each quarter to assign each player a "man" to cover. Man-to-man defense is mandatory because it will develop the player's basic basketball skills prior to learning zone defense.
- 10. There are no 3 point shots.
- 11. Scores will not be kept. No overtime periods.
- 12. Game ball: junior, size 27. Basket height: 8 feet.
- 13. Players shall be assigned officially on the roster of only one (1) team in the league.

## 14. General League Administration:

## A. Team roster and Fees

- 1. Each coach must receive a department issued team roster including players' names, addresses, telephone numbers, birth dates and uniform numbers.
- 2. Teams should have *Agreement to Participate/Release forms* submitted to Recreation Department at time of shirt pick-up.
- 3. Any team not turning in above forms by the first games (January 5) will not be allowed to participate.
- 4. Coaches will determine the time of their practice on the 3 allotted Saturday's and the weekly practice that begins in January.

## B. Financial Aid

Financial assistance for the basketball program is available through the Rockville Recreation Fund. The scholarship will subsidize the resident fee for a youth participant with certain limitations. "Youth" is considered anyone 17 years old or younger, or anyone still a student in high school. **Also, must be a City of Rockville resident.** A participant must pay \$15 towards the registration fee; the scholarship will cover the balance of the fee. The participant must apply for scholarships at the time of registration.

# **Documents Needed for Financial Assistance:**

*Participants must provide verification of any of the following:* 

Award letter from Maryland Dept. Of Human /Resources Montgomery Co. Dept. of Social Services verifying eligibility for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Food Stamps, Medical Assistance and/or Transitional Emergency and Housing Assistance (TEMHA). The letter must indicate eligibility period and names of household members receiving benefits. (We do not accept Medicaid Card, FARM cards or Care for Kids).

Proof participant resides in a shelter; Letter from shelter dated within a month of application and, if applicable, listing dependents living at shelter.

Proof of Rental Assistant – Public Housing, HUD Section 8 Housing, HOC (MPDU not accepted for applicants purchasing a home). This must be a current document from the agency providing assistance which names the eligible tenants.

Supplemental Security Income – Document must be dated within one of application.

## C. UNIFORMS

- 1. Players will be required to wear shirts furnished by the City of Rockville; also required are gym shorts or basketball pants. Players may not wear sweat pants while on the court but are encouraged to have them while on the bench. Shorts with pockets are discouraged, but not restricted. Jeans and bathing suits are not acceptable.
- 2. Players will not be allowed to wear jewelry of any kind during games. Taping of earrings, etc. is not acceptable.
- 3. Players are discouraged from wearing tights or undergarments that extend below the uniform shorts.
- 4. Logo/Trademark Size see **NFHS Rule 3 Sec 6**.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** As noted in B l, the City will furnish, as part of the registration fee, basketball shirts to all teams. Sponsors are encouraged and given the opportunity to display their name on the back of the shirts; however, this added cost will be the responsibility of the team.

## D. TEAM PARENT MEETING

Teams are strongly encouraged to have a minimum of one team/parents meeting during the season. It should be communicated that parents need to demonstrate the positive benefits of youth sports experience by attending games, practices, or team social events; or by taking the time to volunteer or assist in the various team role positions.

## E. SPONSORS

Sponsors are strongly encouraged and will be accepted from service clubs, business establishments, citizen associations and qualified individuals. (No liquor dealers, beer establishments, or cigarette advertisers will be sponsors).

## F. INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

- 1. In case of inclement weather on the day of a game, we will attempt to place a pre-recorded message will be placed on the Sports Weather information line, 240-314-5055, concerning the status of play. All decisions will be made by 8:00 a.m. on Saturdays, and 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. If there is inclement weather on the day of the practice and facilities are closed the weather line will be updated.
- School closings on a Saturday do not necessarily affect school operations on Sunday. Listen for information on a daily basis.

## G. FACILITY RULES

- 1. No smoking or drinking (includes alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages) is allowed in Montgomery County Public School facilities. Teams reported as violating this policy will be reprimanded and risk punitive measures. We must maintain good relations with the schools or we may lose the use of their facility.
- 2. Coaches, players, spectators, etc. are not to bring their personal basketballs to the game, as they will not be allowed in the gymnasium.

## 15. RULES OF CONDUCT

## A. PLAYER CONDUCT

- 1. Players are expected to exhibit good conduct and sportsmanship before, during, and after games and practices. Unsportsmanlike fouls include, but are not limited to:
  - Disrespectfully addressing or contacting an official or gesturing in such a manner as to indicate resentment;
  - b. Using profanity;
  - c. Baiting an opponent or obstructing his vision by waving hands near his eyes;
  - d. Climbing on a teammate to secure greater height to handle the ball;
  - e. Knowingly attempting a free throw to which the player was not entitled.
- 2. A player who commits a flagrant foul as defined by Federation Basketball Rules is disqualified and, based on the reports of the Gym Director and game officials, may be suspended from the team's next league game, or for a period of time deemed fair by the league.
  - a. A flagrant foul may be personal or technical. It may be unsportsmanlike and may or may not be intentional. If personal, it involves violent or savage contact, such as striking with the fist or elbow, kicking, kneeing, running under a player who is in the air, or crouching or hipping in a manner which might cause severe injury to the opponent. If it is a non-contact foul, it involves extreme, some-times persistent, vulgar, and abusive conduct.
- 3. A player who has accumulated two (2) technical fouls as the result of actions prohibited by Federation Basketball Rules or these Bylaws will be disqualified from the game and banished from the vicinity of the bench. Depending on the severity of the actions which lead to the disqualification, and based on the reports of the Gym Director and game officials, the player may be suspended from the team's next league game, or for a period of time deemed fair by the league.

## B. COACHES' CONDUCT

- 1. It is the responsibility of the coach to control his own behavior and that of his assistant(s) and spectators. No coach or spectator shall enter onto the court without the referee's permission.
- 2. Coaches are expected to exhibit good conduct and sportsman-ship before, during, and after games and practices. Unsportsmanlike fouls include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Disrespectfully addressing an official;
  - b. Attempting to influence and official's decision;
  - c. Using profanity;
  - d. Disrespectfully addressing or baiting an opponent;
  - e. Objecting to an official's decision by rising from the bench or using gestures;
  - f. Inciting undesirable crowd reactions.
- 3. A coach who commits a flagrant foul, as defined by the Federation Basketball Rules is disqualified and, based on the reports of the Gym Director and game officials may be suspended from the team's next league game, or for a period of time deemed fair by the league.
  - a. A flagrant foul may be technical. It may be unsportsmanlike and may or may not be intentional. If it is a non-contact foul, it involves extreme, sometimes persistent, vulgar, abusive conduct.
- 4. The (3rd) third technical foul or the (2nd) second technical foul charged directly to the head coach or a single flagrant foul results in disqualification and ejection outside the building. If a coach is ejected from a league game, the coach will be suspended from the team's next league game or, if deemed necessary by the league, for a period of time.

## C. SPECTATOR CONDUCT

- 1. Parents or guardians of each participant are requested to read and sign a "parents' code of ethics" which has been developed and prepared by the <u>National Youth Sports Coaches Association</u>. Coaches will keep these forms with their team records.
- No person connected with a team in any capacity, including team followers (spectators) shall taunt, bait, insult or threaten an opponent or game official by language or gesture that is deemed profane, threatening, discriminatory or in bad taste. **PENALTY:** Warning to coach or coaches, by Gym Director. If repeated and/or flagrant, game will be stopped and offender(s) will forfeit game. Coaches <u>are</u> responsible for the conduct and actions of their team followers.

**NOTE:** At gyms where spectators are unchecked, resulting in the excessive abuse or assault upon officials, opponents, etc., the City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department reserves the right to refuse service to those teams until definite assurances of the discontinuance of these practices are given by the team's coach or representative.

## D. EJECTIONS/SUSPENSIONS

- 1. If a player or coach is disqualified a second time during the season, he shall be suspended for the remainder of the season, or longer if deemed fair by the league.
- 2. A player who does not serve his suspension shall be denied participation in the league for a period of not less than one year and his team shall forfeit all games in which he participated.
- 2. A coach who knowingly uses a suspended or ineligible player shall forfeit his coaching position, and the team shall forfeit all games in which the player participated.

## E. Players, Coaches & Spectators (conduct towards officials)

Before, during or after a game, anyone who strikes, shoves, pushes, bumps or otherwise molests, harasses, or threatens an official shall be suspended for at least 1 year from the date of the incident.

#### 16. DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE ENVIRONMENT

- A. The use of alcohol and illegal substances by coaches, parents (spectators), staff or game officials is prohibited at all youth basketball games and practices. The use of tobacco at any team function is strongly discouraged and use is prohibited in the gymnasium during games.
- B. Coaches and players in violation of the substance use prohibition will be subject as follows:
  - 1. 1st Offense: Coach and player or parent will be suspended for 2 games and all practices in between
  - 2. 2nd Offense: Suspension of remainder of season.

RELAX, BE COOL AND HAVE FUN.